

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 265042

FOR DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY JULIUS L. KATZ

FOLLOWING REPEAT TOKYO 15886 ACTION SEC STATE 6 NOV 75

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 15886

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EGEN JA

SUBJECT: JAPANESE PREPARATIONS FOR ECONOMIC SUMMIT

SUMMARY. JAPANESE PREPARATIONS FOR SUMMIT ARE PROCEEDING CAUTIOUSLY, WITH FOREIGN MINISTRY TRYING TO ANTICIPATE ALL CONTINGENCIES BUT HOPING THERE WILL BE NO SURPRISE CALLS FOR NEW COMMITMENTS FROM JAPAN. PRIME MINISTER MIKI WISHES TO MAKE SOME DISTINCTIVE CONTRIBUTION KEYED TO ASIA THAT WILL NOT DETRACT FROM HIS POSTURE AS ONE OF BIG SIX WORLD STATESMEN. JAPANESE PRESS AND DIET ARE SEARCHING FOR CLUES ON POSSIBLE JAPANESE INITIATIVES BUT ARE SO FAR WIDE OF THE MARK IN THEIR SPECULATIONS. EMBASSY BELIEVES IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO SHARE OUR EXPECTATIONS OF SUMMIT RESULTS WITH GOJ. END SUMMARY.

1. WITH ECONOMIC SUMMIT SCARCELY A WEEK AWAY, FOREIGN MINISTRY APPEARS TO BE UNCERTAIN ABOUT NATURE OF PRIME MINISTER MIKI'S PARTICIPATION. IN MEETING NOVEMBER 5 TO DISCUSS SEVERAL PRESS STORIES SPECULATING ON MIKI'S POSSIBLE SUMMIT INITIATIVES, MFA DIRGEN FOR ECON AFFAIRS
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MIYAZAKI TOLD ECON MINISTER THAT FINAL JAPANESE

POSITIONS WOULD PROBABLY BE WRITTEN ON PLANE TO PARIS.
FOREIGN MINISTRY HAS DONE SERIES OF BACKGROUND PAPERS WHICH
HAVE BEEN DISCUSSED BRIEFLY WITH PRIME MIN, AND ITS
DRAFT POSITION PAPERS AND CONTINGENCY STATEMENTS ARE NOW OUT
FOR INTER-MINISTERIAL CLEARANCE.

2. PRINCIPAL FOREIGN MINISTRY CONCERS CENTER AROUND
HOW FINAL OUTCOME WILL BE DESCRIBED AND HOW OMNIPRESENT
JAPANESE PRESS WILL BE BRIEFED DURING SUMMIT SESSIONS.
ADDITIONAL COMPLICATION ARISES FROM REQUIREMENT THAT
MIKI GET DIET PERMISSION TO LEAVE COUNTRY DURING EXPECTED
HIGH POINT OF CURRENT SPECIAL SESSION AND HIS UNCERTAINTY
AS TO HOW TO DESCRIBE AIMS OF SUMMIT AND TO OUTLINE
JAPANESE INITIATIVES TO BE TAKEN.

3. ACCORDING TO MIYAZAKI, WHILE MIKI HOPES TO PORTRAY HIS
PARTICIPATION AS ONE AMONG EQUALS WITH NO SPECIAL PLEAS
TO MAKE, HE DOES FEEL OBLIGATION, AS SOLE ASIAN PRESENT,
TO SPEAK TO JAPAN'S SPECIAL OBLIGATIONS FOR LESSER
DEVELOPED ASIAN COUNTRIES. SPECIAL EFFORT IS CLEARLY
UNDERWAY TO DEVELOP SOME MODEST NEW MORE-FORWARD POSTURE
THAT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE.

4. MIYAZAKI GAVE BRIEF RUN-DOWN ON HIS MINISTRY'S
THINKING ON PRINCIPAL TOPICS:
TRADE: AS JAPAN WILL BE TAKING LEAD ON TRADE ITEM, THEY
ARE PARTICULARLY ANXIOUS TO HAVE ADVANTAGE OF LATEST
U.S. THINKING IN THIS AREA AND HOPE THEIR INQUIRIES IN
WASHINGTON AT DEPT AND STR WILL BE RESPONDED TO. THEY
ARE ASSUMING THAT SUMMIT WILL PRODUCE REAFFIRMATION OF
OECD PLEDGE TO AVOID INCREASING PROTECTIONISM IN CURRENT
RECESSION AND EXHORTATION TO CONTINUE PROGRESS IN MTN IN
LINE WITH TOKYO DECLARATION. THEY WILL CONTINUE TO
RESIST SPLITTING PACKAGE THROUGH "EARLY HARVEST" OR
"MINI-PACKAGE" DEVICES, AND HOPE THAT RUMORED U.S. PLAN
TO PUSH THESE CONCEPTS WILL NOT COME TO PASS.
MONETARY POLICY: FOREIGN MINISTRY PROFESSES SOME
CONFUSION AS TO HOW CLOSE U.S. MAY BE TO SOME RESOLUTION
OF DIFFERENCES WITH FRENCH. THEY APPARENTLY INTERPRETED
SECRETARY'S OCTOBER 23-24 DISCUSSIONS HERE AS INDICATING
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MORE NARROWING OF U.S.-FRENCH DISAGREEMENTS THAN CONVEYED
IN YEO'S RECENT DISCUSSIONS WITH FINANCE MINISTRY. IN
THIS CONNECTION THEY ARE READING GISCARD'S SPEECH
CAREFULLY FOR CLUES.
ENERGY: JAPANESE LOOKING FORWARD TO PRESIDENT FORD'S
LEAD ON ENERGY SUBJECTS. THEY HOPE SUMMIT WILL NOT BE
INTERPRETED AS RICH CONSUMERS "GANGING UP" ON OPEC, BUT
THAT USEFUL PROGRESS ON CONSERVATION MEASURES AND

DEVELOPMENT OF ALTERNATE SOURCES CAN BE MADE. MIYAZAKI CONFIRMED THAT PRESS STORIES THAT MIKI MIGHT PROPOSE NEW FACILITY FOR IMPROVING FLOW OF INFORMATION ON ALTERNATE SOURCES WERE MISTAKEN. AT MOST, MIKI WILL WELCOME MECHANISM EXPECTED TO FLOW FROM FORTHCOMING CIEC. ECONOMIC POLICY: FOREIGN MINISTRY FEELS SUMMIT WILL PROVIDE TIMELY OPPORTUNITY FOR HEADS OF STATE TO AFFIRM POLITICAL WILL TO ACHIEVE RECOVERY. WHILE SPECIFIC POLICY PRESCRIPTIONS SHOULD BE LEFT TO EACH NATION, GENERAL COMMITMENT SHOULD GO FAR TO BUILD PSYCHOLOGICAL CLIMATE OF RESTORED CONFIDENCE THAT SHOULD LOOSEN UP CONSUMER SPENDING AND NEW INVESTMENT. MIYAZAKI DODGED QUESTION AS TO WHETHER HE EXPECTED SUMMIT MIGHT PRODUCE GENERAL EXHORTATION TO OTHER COUNTRIES TO TRY TO MATCH PACE OF U.S. RECOVERY.

AID AND NORTH-SOUTH ISSUES: MIYAZAKI SAID FOREIGN MINISTRY PAPERS RECOMMEND SUPPORT OF SECRETARY'S SEPTEMBER 1 PROPOSALS FOR DEVELOPMENT SECURITY FACILITY BUT WILL PROBABLY QUESTION WHETHER MORE DOES NOT NEED TO BE DONE. HE RECALLED MIKI'S NATIONAL PRESS CLUB SPEECH THAT STRESSED NEEDS OF SOUTHEAST ASIA. HE SAID VARIOUS DEVICES ARE BEING CONSIDERED INCLUDING CALL FOR WORLD BANK AND FAMILY OF REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT BANKS TO SUPPLEMENT IMF EFFORT, PERHAPS THROUGH EASIER LENDING IN COUNTRIES AFFECTED BY DECLINES IN EXPORT EARNINGS. ALSO UNDER CONSIDERATION ARE SOME DEVICES THAT MIGHT BE PRESENTED IN WORLDWIDE CONTEXT, BUT WOULD PARTICULARLY ASSIST ASIAN PRODUCERS OF TROPICAL LUMBER AND NATURAL RUBBER. MIYAZAKI SAID JAPANESE PRESS WAS GRASPING AT STRAWS WHEN IT REPORTED MIKI MIGHT PROPOSE GLOBAL EXPORT STABILIZATION SCHEME ON MODEL OF LOME AGREEMENT.

5. EMBASSY COMMENTS: GOJ WOULD OBVIOUSLY BE RELIEVED TO
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HAVE SOME CLEAR SPELLING OUT OF U.S. EXPECTATIONS FOR OUTCOME OF SUMMIT, WHETHER THEY ARE LIKELY TO BE CALLED UPON TO MAKE ANY NEW COMMITMENTS AND OF SUCH DETAILS AS HOW PRESS WILL BE BRIEFED AND WHAT WILL SERVE AS FINAL COMMUNIQUE OR SUMMING UP. PARTICIPATION IN SUMMIT IS MAJOR EVENT FOR JAPAN AS SOMEWHAT NERVOUS NEWCOMERS TO SIX-POWER COMMUNITY, AS WELL AS FOR MIKI AND HIS PERSONAL POLITICAL FORTUNES. THEY WISH TO AVOID SURPRISES THAT MIGHT GIVE RISE TO INTERPRETATION THAT JAPAN (OR MIKI) WAS UNPREPARED FOR PARTICIPATION IN SUCH LOFTY ENTERPRISES. (POLITICAL ASPECTS OF JAPANESE APPROACH TO SUMMIT DESCRIBED IN SEPTELS.)

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